

## **Comparing outcomes and spending for beneficiaries who have had a hip or knee replaced**

**ISSUE:** How do outcomes compare for beneficiaries who have had a lower extremity joint (hip or knee) replaced? How does Medicare spending compare for these beneficiaries? Where do physicians think these patients should be rehabilitated?

**KEY POINTS:** This session will present the results of two studies of issues related to the rehabilitation of beneficiaries who have had a hip or knee replaced:

- An empirical study that compares the outcomes and Medicare spending for these patients
- The results of the physician panel's (six orthopedic surgeons and five specialists in physical medicine and rehabilitation) discussion of issues related to patients who have had a hip or knee replaced.

**ACTION:** Commissioners should discuss the results of the studies and comment on the draft post-acute care chapter for the June 2005 report (Chapter 5).

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